

Message Text

SECRET

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43

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

RSC-01 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 /062 W

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R 091550Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1300

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SANAA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

S E C R E T CAIRO 0266

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ENRG, SA, EG

SUBJECT: SAUDI CONCERN RE ARAB ATTACKS ON SAG

REF: JIDDA 7595

1. IN GENERAL, THERE IS STRONG DOMESTIC SUPPORT FOR SADAT'S EFFORTS TO FORGE ARAB SOLIDARITY AND PARTICULARLY HIS ENDEAVORS TO WOO HIS OIL-RICH NEIGHBORS. WITH GOE FOREIGN POLICY PUBLICLY AND FORMALLY HITCHED TO AMERICAN APPROACH TO ARAB/ISRAELI ISSUE, IT IS NOT SURPRISING THAT NEIGHER EGYPTIAN PUBLIC OFFICIALS NOR PRESS ARE CRITICAL OF SAUDI ARABIA'S PRO-AMERICAN

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POLICY.

2. IN EGYPT, FAISAL HAS BECOME SO IDENTIFIED WITH THE THRUST OF EGYPTIAN AREA POLICY THAT IT IS COMMON TO HEAR REFERENCES TO PUTATIVE RIYADH/CAIRO AXIS. IN LARGE PART, OF COURSE, THIS COALITION OF REPUBLICANS AND MONARCHISTS IS DUE TO FAISAL'S COMMAND OF THE OIL WEAPON, WHICH IS SO VITAL TO CREDIBLE ARAB NEGOTIATING POSITION, PARTICULARLY AT TIME WHEN EGYPTIAN ARMY COMPLAINS OF DETERIORATION OF ITS EQUIPMENT.

3. ON OTHER HAND, THERE IS ALSO STRONG EGYPTIAN FEELING THAT SAUDIS HAVE BEEN MISERLY WITH CASH, CREDITS AND OIL. THIS DEFINITELY COLORS THE EGYPTIAN VIEW OF FAISAL PERSONALLY.

4. EVERTHELESS, ARAB SOLIDARITY IS CENTRAL TO EGYPTIAN FOREIGN POLICY, AS IS FAISAL'S OIL. WE DO NOT EXPECT TO HEAR CRITICISM OF SAG ON POLITICAL GROUNDS IN EGYPT.
EILTS

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NNN

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